

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 552
By Buck

A RESOLUTION to create a special joint committee to study child custody, divorce and child support.

WHEREAS, the issues of child custody, divorce and child support are of vital concern to citizens throughout Tennessee and impacts the lives of countless children and parents daily; and

WHEREAS, legislation is pending before the Ninety-Ninth General Assembly on a number of issues relating to child custody, divorce and child support; and

WHEREAS, the interests of children must continue to be the paramount consideration in all of these matters; and

WHEREAS, these issues are also of vital concern to the judicial officials who must decide child custody, divorce and child support issues and they should be carefully and extensively studied by the members of this General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That there is hereby created a special joint committee to study issues relating to child custody, divorce and child support.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the committee shall consist of four (4) members of the House of Representatives and four (4) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the

respective speakers. At least two (2) members from each body shall be a member of the Judiciary Committee of their respective body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That during the course of its deliberations, the special joint committee shall endeavor to provide a forum for organizations and groups which have particular interest in and knowledge of these issues and that such organizations and groups include but are not limited to: The Tennessee Judicial Conference, The Tennessee General Sessions Judges Conference, Dads Against Discrimination, The Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Tennessee Bar Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all legislative members of the special joint committee shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and shall be paid as members of the General Assembly are paid for attending legislative meetings as provided in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-1-106.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the existing members of the committee shall continue to serve provided that such members have been duly elected to the General Assembly, and any vacancies which occur shall be filled by appointment of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the Speaker of the Senate, as appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and any other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special joint committee will report its findings and recommendations, including any legislation, to the One-Hundredth General Assembly on or before March 15, 1997.

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